



SoLiS

Newsletter of the

Southeast Library System

July 2013

SOWINGS

Greetings!

I guess since this is my first note in the newsletter as Director, I should probably introduce myself. My name is Scott Childers and I'm very happy to be here. I'm a native Nebraskan whose family bounced around the state while I was young, finally settling down in Loomis, a small village in Phelps County. I went to the University of Nebraska - Lincoln for my degree in Computer Science, and got my MLS through Emporia when they brought classes up to Nebraska in the late 90s. I worked as a student worker, then as a paraprofessional at UNL during that time.

After I got my MLS, I luckily found a job at UNL as a technology librarian. After 10 years of service there, I left to be the director at Kilgore Memorial Library in York in early 2012. During all of that time I was often at conferences and at training days put on by the System. I also served on the SELS board for a good chunk of those years. I loved working with the library community of southeast Nebraska during that time and I'm glad I get the opportunity to do that on a daily basis.

As with any body in a new position, I'm still getting the lay of the land, but there is something I do know for sure. Library patrons have changing wants and needs, so libraries are changing. That means the services SELS provides needs to reflect those changes as well. As libraries adapt to new technological, cultural, and political norms; we'll be right there with you. During these times of change; communication and cooperation between libraries are some of the best things we have in our bag of tricks and I hope we can continue to facilitate them.

During the summer months I'll be working part time for SELS as I finish off some projects in York, but please don't be afraid to contact us. My email address is scott.childers.sels@gmail.com or you can call the office. I'd love to hear from you; with your questions or ideas. This is your System, so please let us know what we can do for you!

Scott Childers

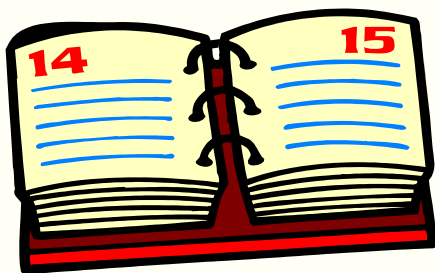
Executive Director SELS

Inside this issue:

Sowings	<u>1</u>
Calendar	<u>2</u>
Open Meetings	<u>3</u>
ARSL Grants	<u>4</u>
NLC Accreditation	<u>5</u>
News Around the System	<u>6-7</u>
Heartland Conference	<u>8</u>
Board Minutes	<u>9</u>
Back Page	<u>10</u>

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See Page 2 for Details!



CALENDAR

July 2013

July 12th— CASTL Meeting at Plattsmouth Public Library. The meeting begins at 10am with a webinar, the topic of which voted on by the group.

July 15– 26—Basic Skills: Library Technology.

June 27– July 2 — ALA Annual Conference: <http://ala13.ala.org/>, Chicago, Bus Trip from Nebraska <http://nebraskalibraries.org/archives/948>

August 2nd and 3rd—Heartland School Library Conference - 9:30 am at UNO www.heartland2013.com

August 5– 9 — Nebraska Library Leadership Institute, Saint Benedict Retreat Center, north of Schuyler. Librarians from all types of libraries are encouraged to apply. Application Deadline: June 25.

August 16th— CASTL Meeting at Alice M. Farr Library in Aurora.

August 19– 30—Basic Skills: Library Finance. Registration begins July 12th and ends July 17th.

September 12th and 13th—Youth Services Retreat

September 13th— CASTL Meeting at Auburn Memorial Library.

September 25- 28—Association of Rural & Small Libraries Conference. <http://arsl.info/> Annual Conference will be at the Doubletree in Downtown Omaha. Lee Rainie, Director of the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, will serve as opening keynote speaker Thursday morning. Nebraska's own Sally Gardner Reed, Executive Director of ALA's United for Libraries, will be the closing keynote on Saturday. See page [4](#).

SOWINGS CONT.

Next month, SELS will begin a "Photo of the Month" contest. When we send out the notice for submissions, we'll also include a reminder to submit your Photo of the Month entry. The photo can be something you're already submitting for an article, a photo of your library at sunset, or really anything that you'd like to share. As long as it can reasonably associated with the library word, we'll consider it!



CASTL meetings are open to librarians of all types, library trustees, and library friends or supporters. The meetings typically start at 10:00 a.m., and wrap up by 3:00 or 3:30. Each meeting has a dedicated topic of focus, as well as a round robin for discussion and sharing of current issues, topics and library happenings. Attendees earn continuing education hours and you are welcome to join us for all or even part of the day.

- July 12th — Plattsmouth Public Library
- August 16th — Alice M. Farr Public Library (Aurora)
- September 13th — Auburn Memorial Library
- November 14th — Kilgore Memorial Library (York)



Check out
Southeast
Library System
on Facebook!

LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS & OPEN MEETING LAWS

By Carol Speicher

Yes, the Library Board is a public body, & as such is subject to the Nebraska Open Meeting Laws O.M.L. The “we just have a *little* library” is not an acceptable excuse. It is the public’s library, & meeting business should be conducted in the open. Also, there is the fact that a board member who violates the Open Meeting Laws may be held criminally liable. We wouldn’t want that. So let’s learn more about the O.M.L.

The Library Board must provide a Meeting Notice at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, along with an Agenda of subjects known at that time or a statement that the agenda will be kept continually current & posted at the library. It wouldn’t hurt if it were also posted at the city hall or office of the village clerk.

The Board needs to have in place--& follow--a written policy in this regard. I know of a library that did not provide public notice of meeting, agenda & minutes, thus causing legal trouble for the community’s village board. You do not want this to happen in your community.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes should include the time & place that the meeting took place, along with the names of members present & absent, & the substance of all matters discussed.

Minutes of a regular meeting must be available for public inspection during normal business hours with 10 working days or by the next meeting, whichever is first. They must show how members voted regarding each item that was voted on, if they abstained, or if they were not present for each vote.

A roll call vote in open session is needed on any motion that has been moved & seconded.

Closed Session: Be careful of using this. Closed session must be clearly necessary, & the majority of the Board must vote to do so. Do you know the 2 occasions when a Board may decide to go into closed session?

1. Protection of the public interest
2. The prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if the individual has not requested a *public meeting*.

But wait, there’s more: The Board President must succinctly state why the board is going into closed session. Go into closed session to discuss only one item at a time. Only a *discussion* of this specific topic can take place in closed session. Everything else, the motion, the vote, the time that the closed session began & ended, must take place in open session.

To summarize this, you can take no formal action in closed session. Do not discuss anything other than what the board president stated was the one reason for going into closed session.

Finally, what is said in closed session remains in closed session. You don’t want to violate this confidentiality rule.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Public Rights: The public has a right to attend all meetings of the Library Board. If attendees wish to speak, they are required to identify themselves for the record. The Board should have a written policy regarding the length of time each person is allowed to speak. You do not have to have a public forum at every meeting, but you must have one on a regular basis.

This was some of the information I gathered while attending the “*Open Meetings Law Workshop*” on June 26th. Presenters were experienced attorneys--& excellent presenters--Megan Neiles-Brasch & John Spatz. Attendees represented all types of boards, administrators, etc., & provided much good discussion. Also see: *Nebraska Rev. Statutes Chap. 84, Art. 14 – Public Meetings*.

I believe that these types of meetings will continue to be held throughout the state, so watch for them. “Have a productive--& legal—Board Meeting!”

Grants for ARSL Conference in Omaha

By Laura Johnson, Nebraska Library Commission

The deadline to submit a grant application has been extended to Friday, July 12.

We will let you know by Friday, July 19 if your application has been approved.

We’ve received a number of applications, but we still have some money in the grant fund, so if you were hesitant to apply, or weren’t sure about turning in an application for an additional person from your library, go ahead and apply at: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/grants/ce/>.

Let’s have a great Nebraska showing at the conference!

SummerTeen in York

By Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission

School Library Journal is once again offering SummerTeen, this time at no charge! It will be held in York on July 24, 10 am – 4 pm CST and live streamed online. Last year, the first SummerTeen was informative, interesting, and fun. This year looks to be the same.

If you wish, you are welcome to join other librarians for this event at the Kilgore Memorial Library in York. There is no charge for the SummerTeen event but it is fun to experience it with fellow librarians. Please let Judy An-

draws know if you plan to attend this event at York. Email her at: kilgorekids.york@hotmail.com

Those of us attending can help decide how lunch should be arranged, such as \$5 for sub sandwiches for example. Hope to see you there!

If you prefer, or travel to York would be too far, you can register yourself for free and watch the presentations in the comfort of your office or library. Information can be found here: <http://www.slj.com/summerteen/>.

New Public Library Accreditation Guidelines in Effect

The [Nebraska Guidelines for Public Library Accreditation](#), which the Nebraska Library Commission will begin using in July 2013, were developed by a group of eleven librarians working for more than two years to revamp the guidelines. The group was co-chaired by Stan Schulz from York and Joan Birnie from Broken Bow. We have streamlined the Accreditation process to make it as quick and easy as possible. Fifty libraries across Nebraska are due to be reaccredited this year. An additional 40 public libraries that are currently unaccredited, but which submitted their annual statistics last year, are positioned to seek accreditation this year. The Nebraska Library Commission will be working on this process with these 90 libraries first.

More information about the revised accreditation process is available at [Nebraska Guidelines for Public Library Accreditation](#). All public library directors and boards are invited to use the information from this website to plan for future community activities leading to accreditation. This information details:

- Timeframe
- Structure of the guidelines
- Changes in the guidelines
- 12 minimum qualifications
- Requirements, including strategic plan
- [List of all Nebraska Public Libraries](#) with their accreditation standing and year of expiration

Libraries not due to apply for accreditation this year may look at the accreditation guidelines at [Preview the Accreditation Application here](#). Please note that these guidelines are interactive only for the libraries applying for accreditation this year.

However, if you'd like to get started preparing for accreditation in the future, you can begin by initiating the strategic planning process. An up-to-date strategic plan for your library is required. The accreditation process is based on the goals you set for your library, in response to your community's needs. If you do not already have a strategic plan or your plan is due to be updated, go to the following link on the Commission's website for a simple strategic planning kit which includes how-to videos, guides, and worksheets: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/LibAccred/#Fill>

For more information contact Richard Miller, richard.miller@nebraska.gov, 402-471-3175, or 800-307-2665.

Smackdown 2013

By Charlotte Baldinger, Seward Memorial Library



Who reads more on Highway 34? Everyone enjoys a little friendly competition and the typical rivalry between the towns of York and Seward has been taken to a new level. Scott Childers, director of the Kilgore Memorial Library and Becky Baker, director of Seward Memorial Library are urging their adult readers to demonstrate which summer

life in Seward and neither director wants to donate an afternoon of work in the rival's library if they lose. If you are curious about the current status of the showdown, visit the newly constructed website at www.readingsmackdown.org.

reading club is "better." Each week the two directors tally the number of books read as club readers turn in their titles. Although each library has its own program, all eyes are focused on winning the unique trophy created for this event. Seward thinks the traveling book trophy should start its

Palmyra Story Time

By Glenda Willnerd

Erica Peterson of Waverly, Nebraska and her sheep Daisy entertained the children at the Palmyra Memorial Library story time on Sunday, June 16th. Children and friends heard Erica read the book she wrote called – Daisy Goes to the Fair. Also in the audience was her grandmother, Glenda Mack of Palmyra, Nebraska.



Board Game Nights Go Great! Library Sets Standing Date



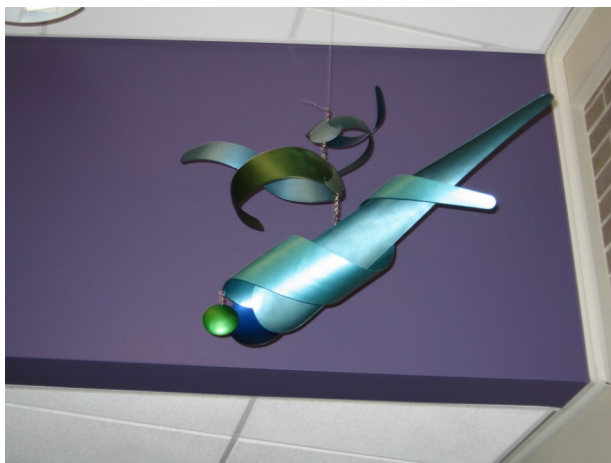
the second Saturday (obviously). This is a great opportunity to learn new games for use in libraries and classrooms, as well as great fun for families and social evenings with friends. We play modern euro games, dexterity games and many others. Of course we bring snacks, too! At our June event, more than 15 different games were played at least once. Gamers from Lincoln, Beaver Crossing, Henderson and elsewhere are making the trip to Seward; how about you? Bring a friend or your family and join us on July 13. Send me any questions at Philip.Hendrickson@cune.edu.

By Philip Henderickson, Concordia University

After two successful trials, Link Library at Concordia University is going to make board game nights a regular monthly event. Second Saturday Game Night will go from 6pm – midnight each month on

Photo: Players master “The Castles of Burgundy” and many other games at Concordia’s Link Library in Seward.

Auburn Art



By Heather Koeneke, Auburn Public Library

The Auburn Library has purchased five pieces of hanging artwork in memory of one of our library patrons. One piece hangs in the hallway to the children's area, three hang in the children's area, and one is in youth. A great colorful addition!





Sign up Now!

**Heartland School Library Conference
Inquiry & the Common Core**

August 2-3, 2013

University of Nebraska Omaha

Featured Keynote Speakers:

Barbara Stripling, ALA President

- Expert on Inquiry Process
- Focused on Common Core, inquiry, and school libraries

Marc Aronson of Rutgers University

- Author and authority on Common Core
- Presenter, Common Core workshops to New York librarians

An invaluable experience at an incredible price!

\$50 for NSLA members

\$80 for non-NSLA members

Funding assistance provided by the Nebraska Library Commission.

**To register or for more information, go to:
www.heartland2013.com**

SELS Minutes
April 15, 2013
Crete Public Library
Crete, NE

Board members present: Barbara Hegr, Rebecca Bernthal, Karen Frank, Carolyn Bennett, Kent Munster, Ruth Carlock, Becky Baker, Jan Thomsen, Dorothy Willis, Sabrina Riley.
Also present: William Bragg.

A motion to accept the consent agenda was made by Ruth Carlock, seconded by Karen Frank, motion carried. The minutes of March 6, 2013 and the financial transaction report were accepted as submitted.

After discussion by the Board, the Administrator vacancy will be handled as follows:

Application deadline for interested persons will be May 21, 2013.

Starting salary will be \$45,000 + 17% benefit stipend.

An Interim Director will be hired for up to 10 hours per week to keep things flowing smoothly in the SELS office. Offer \$15.00 per hour for Interim Director.

The hiring committee is made up of 5 SELS Board members. The committee will be using established interview questions and will develop the criteria for evaluating resumes. The entire board does not need to approve finalists for the position.

A motion was made by Becky Baker and seconded by Karen Frank that any documents concerning the position for SELS be changed from Administrator to Executive Director. Motion Carried.

The hiring committee will finalize the wording of the job advertisement. A motion was made by Sabrina Riley, seconded by Ruth Carlock to approve the hiring documents. Motion carried.

SELS Board nominations: 4 members whose terms expire. Kent Munster and Carolyn Bennett agreed to serve a second term. The Executive Committee will present a slate of candidates.

The Interim report was presented for the period March 7 to April 15, 2013.

The SELS Friends "Aged to Perfection" event will be held on Friday, April 19. There may be a change for future book fair events at Barnes & Noble since Hilary Sire is no longer working at Barnes & Noble.

The NLC Report to the Systems was briefly reviewed. It was noted that the University of Nebraska Kearney's School Librarian Endorsement Program has been recognized nationally by the American Library Association/ American Association of School Librarians and by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

The CE Committee met to confirm plans for the Extravaganza to be held at Union College in Lincoln on May 23. A tentative list of locations for CASTL meetings for the coming year was set up. The Marketing/Promotion Committee discussed the Front Porch Award and other upcoming events.

The regular SELS Board meeting in June will be held at Clark Enerson in Lincoln.

A motion was made by Becky Baker, seconded by Jan Thomsen to hold the SELS Annual Meeting in early August.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Southeast Library System

Serving libraries in the counties
of:

Cass • Fillmore • Gage • Hamilton •
Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster •
Nemaha • Otoe • Pawnee •
Richardson • Saline •
Seward • Thayer • York

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July 2013

*"A library is....
Our land of Oz."
-Joyce Carol Oates*

Southeast Library System is a multi-type library network with 248 members offering a wide range of service in public, school, academic, institutional and private libraries (Membership list with populations from 2000 Census are on the SELS web page: www.selsne.org.) Membership includes 12 academic institutions, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, four private colleges, three community college campuses, a state college and a technical school. Fifty-four public libraries are system members. The majority of these libraries (34) serve populations fewer than 1,000. The system counts 146 school media centers among its members, 54 that are Lincoln Public Schools, with most of those belonging to Class 3 schools (population areas between 1,000 and 100,000). Fourteen of the school media centers are parochial. The system has 28 special and institutional members, most of which are located in Lancaster County.